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ED. F. MANGELSDORF & BRO. INC.



M BRAND SEEDS ARE SELECTED FOR QUALITY
1020 SO. FOURTH ST.

Saint Louis 4, Mo.

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★ OCT 17 1949 ★

U. S. Department of Agriculture

Ladino Clover

WHAT IT IS: A tall-growing, leafy form of White Clover — a long-lived perennial. Makes larger, more luxuriant growth than White Dutch Clover. A valuable crop for hay or pasture purposes.

ITS ORIGIN: Originated in the Po Valley of northern Italy, where it has been known for many years. In recent years, after its introduction to the U. S., seed production has been increasing in this country but the demand continues to exceed domestic production. To meet this increasing demand importations from the original Italian Ladino production areas continue.

USES: Ladino is primarily a pasture crop. It is well-suited for pasture because of its dense growing habit and quick recovery after being grazed. The high quality of Ladino pasture is due to the fact that the part of the plant available to grazing animals consists of highly nutritious leaves. In pasture use, it is most often sown in combination with grasses. As a hay crop, best results are obtained when used with one or more grasses such as Meadow Fescue, Orchard Grass, Brome.

COST: Ladino is high in price per pound but cheap per acre. The seed is small; a little goes a long way. One or 2 lbs. is all that is needed when used with other pasture grasses or clovers.

ADAPTABILITY: Ladino is adapted to regions where common White Clover does well. It will grow on almost any soil type but does better where there is good soil moisture. Being shallow-rooted it gets along on soils with hardpan near the surface. As with other clovers and grasses, fertilizer improves results.

TIME & RATE OF SEEDING: August and September — February and March are preferred seeding periods. Same seed-bed preparation as for other grasses or small-seeded legumes. For small areas where thick stand is desired the first season, use up to 4 or 5 lbs. per acre. One to 2 lbs. sufficient on large fields when there is time for the plants themselves to thicken the stand, or where it is used with other clovers or grasses. Seed is very small, about 700,000 per lb. **DO NOT COVER DEEP — not over one-fourth inch.** Deep seeding will result in poor stand or no stand at all.

CAUTION: No means exist of identifying seed of Ladino from that of common White Clover. Avoid "bargain" seed, the origin of which is uncertain. Buy from reliable firms or individuals who are careful to handle seed from true Ladino production areas. Local seed, harvested from mixed pastures, may contain seed of volunteer White Clover that was on the land in previous years.

M BRAND LADINO: M Brand Ladino is selected quality, the seed originating in established Ladino production areas of this country, or out of direct importation of certified seed from abroad. It is high in purity and germination, specially cleaned against noxious weeds.



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Concerning LADINO CLOVER -- Certified & Uncertified
- We handle and sell both kinds -

BLUE TAG CERTIFIED DOMESTIC

Higher-priced because of certifying expense and smaller amount available. Use where purpose is to produce seed that will in turn be certified. Otherwise there is no necessity to pay premium over reliable Italian or reliable uncertified domestic seed. (Must be ordered in original 100# bags to obtain original seal and certified tag; split orders require breaking seal.)

ITALIAN CERTIFIED SEED - This comes to us certified and sealed under auspices of Italian Government. For pasture use or other purposes where certified seed-production is not the aim, it should be used because of its trueness to name, fine quality, and lower price. It comes from Northern Italy (Po Valley) where Ladino originated and where our domestic Ladino had its start. This Italian has been found as hardy as domestic and we find no weeds not usually found in domestic seed. We reprocess the Italian to remove buckhorn and then recertify it under our own certificate and seal into 100# and 10# bags.

DOMESTIC UNCERTIFIED SEED - Our domestic uncertified Ladino is from California, from sections producing Ladino for years. We avoid buying Ladino from districts where there is risk of contamination of ordinary White Dutch Clover that might volunteer in the fields. (Ladino and White Clover seeds cannot be told apart.) White Clover can lie in the soil for years, germinate under favorable conditions, and volunteer in a Ladino field, the grower not suspecting it was there. Therefore we have avoided handling Ladino seed produced in the Central States and South, whether uncertified or certified. We have greater confidence in the Ladino from the Italian and California Ladino sections.

GENERAL COMMENT - Ladino seed-production in the Central States is a doubtful venture. First, Ladino is not a heavy seed-producer - 30 lbs. per acre is usually all that may be expected. Also, there is reluctance on the part of reliable seedsmen to handle homegrown seed due to risk of White Clover mixtures (see above). Also, seed-production is rapidly increasing and lower prices in coming years may be expected. ... In the Central States the chief value of Ladino is its excellent pasture performance, alone or with other legumes or grasses. It recovers quickly from heavy grazing. For this use, the lower-priced Italian or uncertified Domestic seed is entirely adequate.

